REMARKS

This paper is responsive to the Office Action mailed from the Patent and Trademark Office on February 7, 2008, which has a shortened statutory period set to expire May 7, 2008.

Claims 1-5, 9, 10, 12, 20, 21, 23, 28 and 30 are pending in the above-identified application, Claims 6-8, 11, 13, 14, 22, 25-27, 29, 31 and 32 are withdrawn from consideration, and Claims 15-19 and 24 are canceled. Claims 1-5, 9, 10, 12, 20, 21, 23, 28 and 30 are rejected under 35 USC 102 in the pending Office Action.

In the current paper, Claims 1, 9 and 20 are amended to clarify that which Applicants believe is their invention. Claims 2-5, 10, 12 21, 23, 28 and 30 remain as filed or previously presented. No new matter is entered. In view of these amendments and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of all pending rejections.

Claims 1-5, 10, 12, 20, 21, 28 and 30

Claims 1-5, 10, 12, 20, 21, 28 and 30 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Simmons (U.S. Patent No. 6,947,288) in view of Yamada (U.S. Patent No. 5,461,256).

Claim 1 is amended herein to recite:

> …a printed circuit board assembly (PCBA) including one or more integrated circuits (ICs) mounted on a printed circuit board (PCB), the PCBA having a width defined by opposing side edges of the PCB…

Support for the above language is provided in Claim 9 (as originally filed) and in paragraph 0026. Claim 1 is also amended to recite:

> … wherein the width of the PCBA is substantially equal to an interior width separating interior surfaces of the upper side walls, and the PCBA is mounted against an interior surface of the upper cover such that no portion of the lower cover is disposed between outer edges of the PCBA and the upper side walls of the upper cover.

Support for "wherein the width of the PCBA is substantially equal to an interior width separating interior surfaces of the upper side walls" is provided, for example, in Applicants' Figs. 2A, which is copied below for reference, and clearly shows that PCBA 230 has a width that is substantially equal to the distance between the interior surfaces of sidewalls 211:

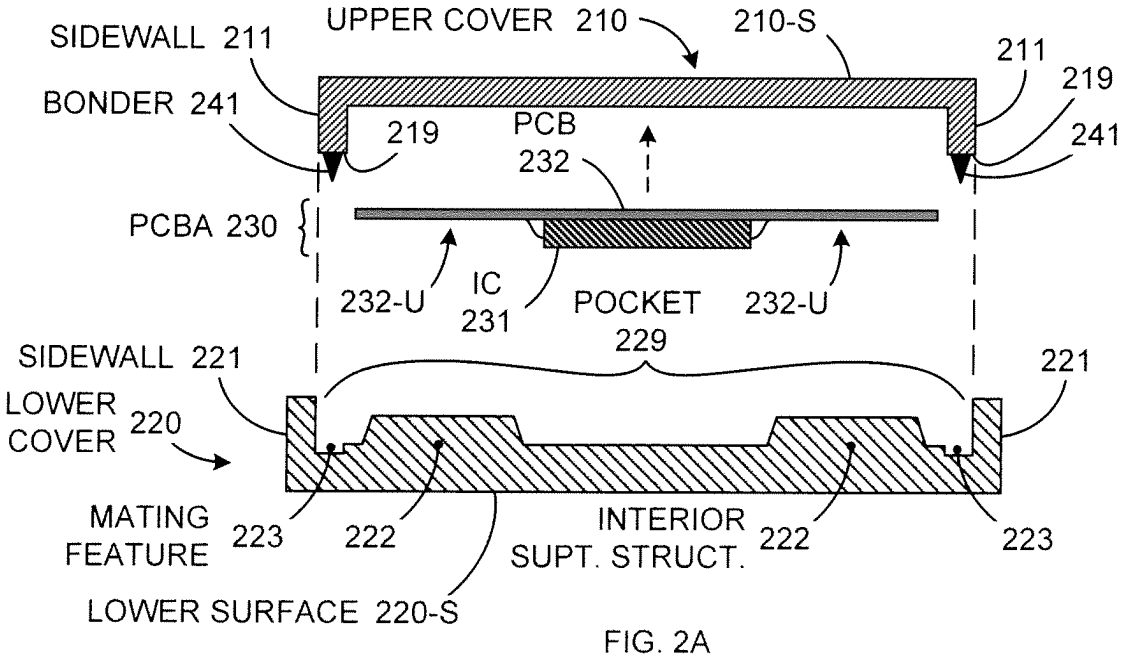


FIG. 2A

Support for "the PCBA is mounted against an interior surface of the upper cover such that no portion of the lower plastic cover is disposed between outer edges of the PCBA and the upper side walls of the upper cover" is provided, for example, in Applicants' Figs. 2B and 2C, which are copied below for reference:

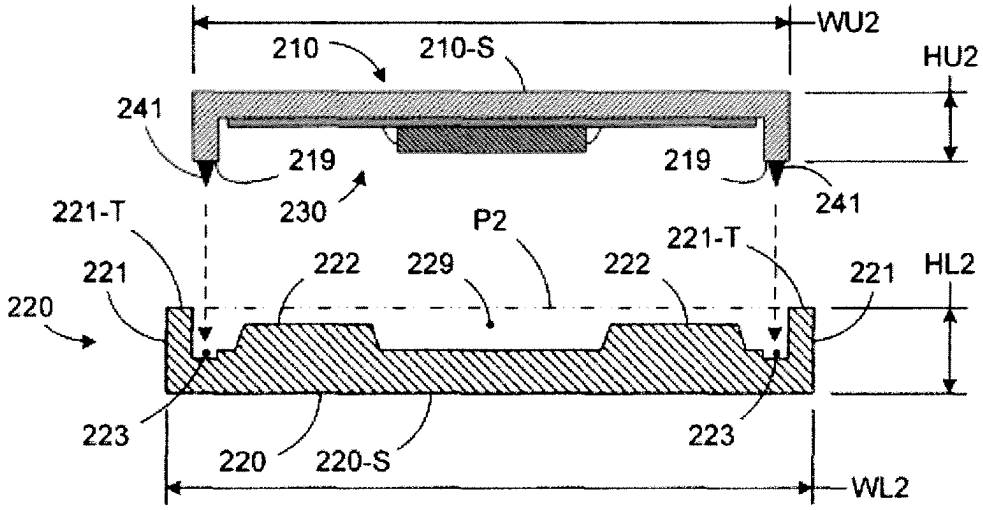


FIG. 2B

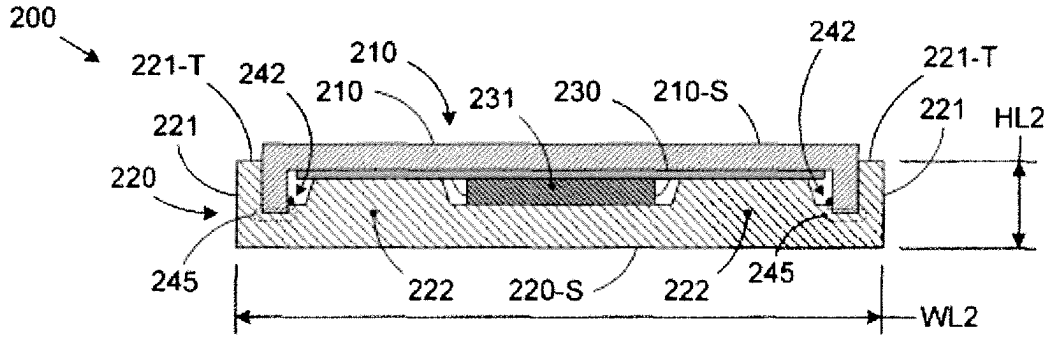


FIG. 2C

Applicants note that Fig. 2B clearly shows that no portion of lower plastic cover 220 is disposed between outer edges of PCBA 230 and the side walls of upper cover 210. Applicants believe this structure maximizes the size of PCBA 230, which facilitates e.g., greater memory capacity.

As amended, Claim 1 is distinguished over Simmons and Yamada at least because both references fail to teach or

suggest "the PCBA is mounted against an interior surface of the upper cover such that no portion of the lower cover is disposed between outer edges of the PCBA and the upper side walls of the upper cover", as recited in amended Claim 1.

First, Simmons clearly shows that upper cover 19 is mounted onto lower cover 11 such that a wall portion (i.e., to the left of slot 64 in Fig. 6, copied below) is disposed between tabs 61 and a PCBA (not shown) disposed inside the resulting housing structure:

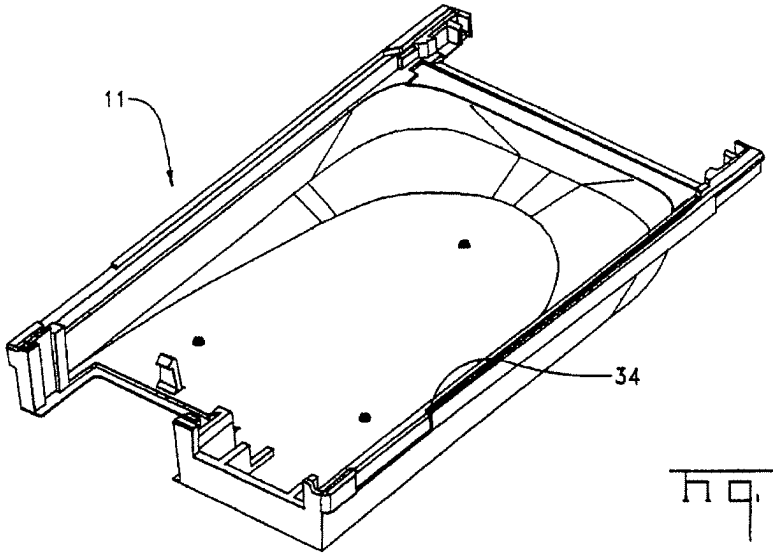


Fig. 5

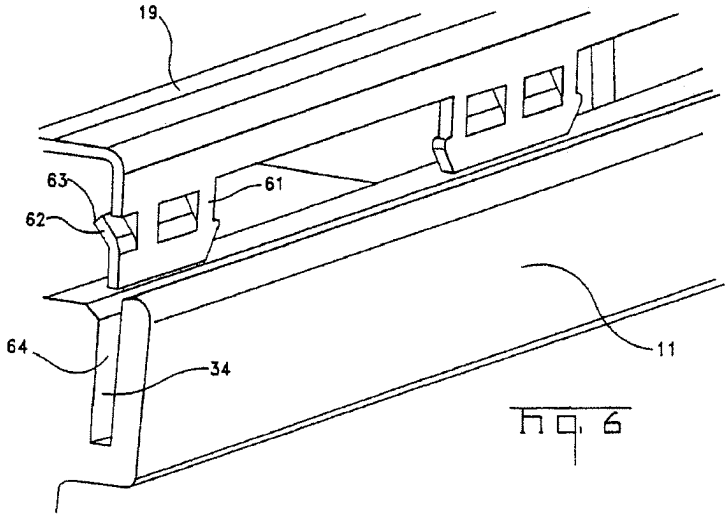
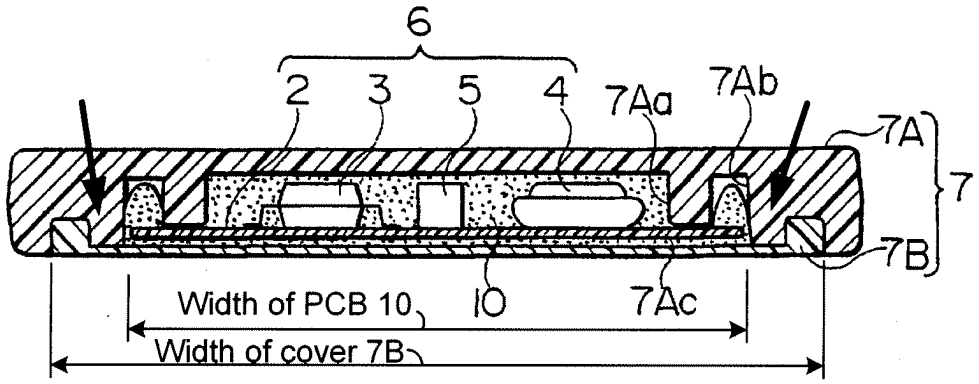


Fig. 6

Similarly, Yamada clearly shows, e.g., in Fig. 2 (copied below for reference) that the width of PCBA 10 is much shorter than the width defined by "upper" cover 7B, and a portion of cover 7A (indicated by arrows, added) is disposed between outside edges of PCBA 10 and the side walls of cover 7B:

FIG. 2



In view of the above teaches of Simmons and Yamada, Applicants therefore believe it would not have been obvious or possible to combine the teachings of Simmons and Yamada to produce the structure of Claim 1 because neither of these references teach or suggest "the PCBA is mounted against an interior surface of the upper cover such that no portion of the lower cover is disposed between outer edges of the PCBA and the upper side walls of the upper cover", as recited in amended Claim 1. As such, Applicants believe Claim 1 is distinguished over Simmons and Yamada, and respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection directed to this claim.

Claims 2-5, 10 and 12 are dependent from Claim 1, and are therefore distinguished over Simmons and Yamada for at least the reasons provided above with reference to Claim 1.

Similar to Claim 1, Claim 20 is amended to recite "a printed circuit board assembly (PCBA) including one or more integrated circuits (ICs) mounted on a printed circuit board (PCB), the PCBA having a width defined by opposing side edges of the PCB" and "wherein the width of the PCBA is substantially equal to an interior width separating interior surfaces of the upper side walls, and the PCBA is mounted against an interior surface of the upper cover such that no portion of the lower plastic cover is disposed between outer edges of the PCBA and the upper side walls of the upper plastic cover". As such, Claim 20 is believed to be patentable over Simmons and Yamada for at least the reasons provided above with reference to Claim 1.

Claims 21, 28 and 30 are dependent from Claim 20, and are therefore distinguished over Simmons and Yamada for at least the reasons provided above with reference to Claim 20.

Claims 9 and 23

Claim 9 and 23 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Simmons in view of Ramey (U.S. Patent No. 5,505,628).

Claim 9 is dependent from Claim 1, and Claim 23 is dependent from Claim 20. These claims are therefore distinguished over Simmons for at least the reasons provided above with reference to Claims 1 and 23. Ramey teaches a metal cover similar to that of Simmons, and fails to overcome the deficiencies of Simmons that are set forth above. Accordingly, it would not have been possible to

combine the teachings of Simmons and Ramey to produce the structure of Claims 9 and 23.

For the above reasons, Applicants' respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 USC 103.

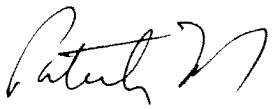
Request for Reinstatement of Claims 6-8, 11, 13, 14, 22, 25-27, 29, 31 and 32

Should the Examiner decide to allow Claims 1 and 20 over the cited prior art, Applicant respectfully requests reinstatement of withdrawn Claims 6-8, 11, 13, 14, 22, 25-27, 29, 31 and 32, which depend from Claims 1 and 20, and remain consistent with the amendments to Claims 1 and 20. Applicants respectfully point out that Claims 22, 25, 26, 27 and 29 are amended to conform to the amendment to Claim 20 in anticipation to their reinstatement. No new matter is entered.

CONCLUSION

For the above reasons, Applicants believe Claims 1-5, 9, 10, 12, 20, 21, 23, 28 and 30 are in condition for allowance, and requests reinstatement of Claims 6-8, 11, 13, 14, 22, 25-27, 29, 31 and 32. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the present paper, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



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